



University of Saskatchewan
Graduate Students' Association
GSA Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday November 20, 2018. GSA Commons

As Council gathers, we acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of our gathering place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

Attendance: See appendix A

1. Call to Order

Mr. Ghaith, chair of Council called the meeting to order at 5:08pm, observing that quorum had been attained.

Before plunging into the agenda Mr. Ghaith called Indigenous liaison (Marie-Eve Presber) to provide a short note to the GSA Council on her recent resignation from her executive post. Ms. Presber that due to her academic workload and her personal life it was in her best interest to follow through with the resignation. She further mentioned that 3 other co-council members of the Indigenous Council (IGSC) had resigned as well for similar reasons.

The Chair then on behalf of the Council thanked Ms. Presber for her contribution, and for her service of the past several months.

2. Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve agenda. (GOMEZ/GRAY)

CARRIED

3. Approval of the Minutes from October 25

Motion to approve September Council minutes (MARTINEZ-SOBERANES/ MARRAY)

CARRIED

4. Information to receive

A. Executive meeting minutes from September 25, 2018

B. Executive meeting minutes from October 11, 2018

C. Bursary Selection Committee Meeting Minutes.

Motion to receive committees reports information (MELLIDEZ/ RODRIGUEZ)

CARRIED

5. Executive reports

A. Report of the President

The President highlighted three items from her report within the agenda package to the gathering namely:

- In February the university council approved a motion to support in principle a graduate student member on the board. This was taken to senate on October 20th to seek their support to which the university senate also provided support to this motion via a majority vote. With regards to how the governing bodies of the university works, the board of governors is autonomous, separated from the university council and senate so they have the freedom to add members as they see fit right now without changing the act. The GSA is in process of getting a graduate student representative at the discussion table so that views/perspectives of graduate students can contribute to more comprehensive discussions. This was done in a meeting with some of the members of board of governors where it was expressed that support from both senate and council have already been granted so it is the hope that word of a decision from the board of governors can be made by the end of year.
- Student supervisor agreement- a lot of positive feedback so based on this the executive is putting together a proposal to present to council see what the members think and to then consult with CGPS to see this can be mandated in the future.
- Graduate faculty supports- still in its infancy but it's the desire of the president that a more formal package/ toolbox can soon be presented to council on what current and future supervisors could benefit from in their roles as mentors.

There were no questions for the president.

B. Report of the VP Finance and Operations

128 bursary applications were reviewed but because of limited funds only a small percentage of those were granted a bursary so the VP of finance urged unsuccessful applicants to re-apply in the winter. Mr. Gomez thanked all the council members who served on the bursary committee. He also thanked the members of the executive who facilitated the functioning of the GSA commons during the office manager's vacation.

There were no questions for the VP Finance and Operations.

C. Report of the VP Student Affairs

The VP student affairs outlined a few future events for the gathering:

- At the end of February the GSA will host its research conference so expect abstract request in Jan. At this time there is no theme as there is such a broad range of research projects on campus.

- In March Three Minute thesis competition dubbed the 3MT will be held so please look out for this, may need some council member, CGPS and some industry folk to assess the talks.
- Edgar is also on the executive for the student forum so if you have any feedback or advice that you think can help your department run smoother feel free to contact him.

There were no questions for the VP Student

D. Report of the VP External

The Chair informed the gathering that the VP external could not attend the meeting as he was representing the GSA in the CFS and so asked members of the executive if there was any message(s) they could relay to the council members on his behalf.

President Sahtout shared with the audience that 2nd offering of first aid course will happen on the 27th November and that the deadline to register was the 23rd November. It is being offered at a price of \$100 which is approximately an \$80 discount for the GSA.

President Sahtout also informed the council members that on Thursday at 5pm there will be laughter therapy at the GSA commons. It's a technique used for stress relief, so if you think you can do with some relief head down to the commons for 5pm.

6. Ratification of social clubs

A. Brazilian Students Association of the University of Saskatchewan

Brazilian Students Association representative shared a few words about the Association. He said that it was founded in 2016 and works with the off campus Brazilian Association at times to put on events. Most of their members are graduate students. They have participated and held activities from social activities to school orientation.

Motion to ratify the Brazilian Students Association of the University of Saskatchewan.
(GOMEZ/PAROLIA)

CARRIED, ONE ABSTANTION (RAZAN)

B. U of S India Students' Association

VP student affairs shared some information on the association.

Mission is to serve as the ambassador to India, sharing Indian food and culture with the university community.

Motion to ratify the U of S India Students' Association. (GOMEZ /NASEEMAR)

ARRIED ONE ABSTANTION (SHARMA)

7. Other business/Announcements Information

VP Student affairs informed the council members that the wellness center is in marquis. They Gather to have discussions on the overall health and wellness of the graduate student community. They'd like more representation in the wellness champion group so those interested were ask to meet or contact Edgar at the end of council meeting.

Mr. Ghaith reminded the gathering that the next council meeting will be on December 11th

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (ZAHAN/ADAMS) at 5:33

CARRIED

Appendix A

Academic Council	Name of Councilors and (alternates)	Sep.25 2018	Oct.16 2018	Nov.20 2018	Dec.11 2018	Jan.15 2019	Feb.12 2019	Mar.12 2019	Apr.9 2019
Animal & Poultry Science	Brittany Ross (Tess Mills)	P	R	P					
ARCHAIA	Alne Doln (Adrienne Ratuszniak)	P	P	P					
Biology	Dylan Baloun (Carmen Marquez Mellidez)	P	P	P					
Chemistry	Doug Fansher (Richard Pettipas)	P	A	R					
Geography & Planning	Bethany Thiessen (Apeksha Heendeniya)	P	P	P					
Geological Sciences	Brittany Laing (James Schulte)	P	P	P					
History Graduate Students' Committee	John Bird (Mckelvey Kelly)	P	P	P					
IGSC (1)	Tara Million (Adam McInnes)	P	P	NA					
IGSC (2)	NA	NA	NA	NA					
Kinesiology	Natasha Boyes (Natalie Houser)	P	P	P					
Computer Science Grad Course Council (1)	Rifat Zahan (Tonny Kar)	P	P	P					
Computer Science Grad Course Council (2)	Parastoo Veisi (Kawser Nafi)	A	P	A					
PEGASUS	Jason Ho (Ethan Runge)	P	P	P					
Soil Science Graduate Student Association	Jennifer Bell (Aimee Schryer)	P	P	P					
WCVM GSA	Breanne Murray (Narsimha Pujari)	P	P	P					
Master of Business Admin Representative Council (MBARC)	Tyler Gray (Alli Sparling)	NA	NA	P					

Academic Council	Name of Councilors and (alternates)	Sep.25 2018	Oct.16 2018	Nov.20 2018	Dec.11 2018	Jan.15 2019	Feb.12 2019	Mar.12 2019	Apr.9 2019
Psychology Graduate Student Assoc.	Sarah Mohammed (Farron Wielinga)	P	P	A					
AREC	Yerebakia Choro (Ran Sun)	NA	P	P					
SENSSA (1)	Peter Friedrichsen (Belizario Carballo)	P	R	P					
SENSSA (2)	Laila Balkhi (Belizario Carballo)	NA	P	P					
Pharmacy & Nutrition Graduate Students' Council P&N-GSC	Lina Kharabsheh (Yvonne Ruhumbika)	P	P	A					
School of Public Health Students' Assoc (SPHSA) (1)	Cheryl Roett (NA)	NA	P	P					
School of Public Health Students' Assoc. (SPHSA) (2)	Chiamaka Ezekwesili (NA)	NA	P	P					
Physical Therapy Student Society (PTSS)	Kyla Collins (Katrin Ritchie)	P	P	P					
Engineering, Chemical	Khaled Zoroufchi Benis (NA)	P	P	P					
Engineering, Mechanical	Bicheng Xing (Stephen Owuamanam)	P	P	P					
Engineering, Electrical	Ozan Gunes (Jose Berkenbrock)	P	P	P					
Engineering, Biomedical	Saman Naghieh (Ejalonibu Hammed)	P	P	P					
Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology	Kusum Sharma (Mamata Panigrahi)	P	A	P					
Anatomy, Physiology & Pharmacology	Kushagra Parolia (Sarah Martin)	P	P	P					
Community Health & Epidemiology	Jacob Alhassan (Liliana Rodriguez)	NA	P	P					
Health Sciences	Chelsea Cunningham (Scott Adams)	NA	P	P					

